

IN THE CLAIMS:

The text of all pending claims, (including withdrawn claims) is set forth below. Cancelled and not entered claims are indicated with claim number and status only. The claims as listed below show added text with underlining and deleted text with ~~strikethrough~~. The status of each claim is indicated with one of (original), (currently amended), (cancelled), (withdrawn), (new), (previously presented), or (not entered).

Please AMEND claims 4, 6, and 9 and CANCEL claims 12-17, in accordance with the following:

1-3. (CANCELLED)

4. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A surface light source device of side light type, comprising:

a light guide plate having an incidence end surface, an exiting surface and an incline surface inclined so that the light guide plate gradually decreases away from the incidence end surface in thickness;

a reflecting sheet disposed along the inclined surface of the light guide plate;

a primary light source supplying illumination light to said light guide plate from said incidence end surface, the supplied light being deflected in the light guide plate and emitted from the exiting surface of the light guide plate; and

a light control element disposed along the exiting surface of said light guide plate, the light control element extending in a plane, having a light entrance side with a prismatic surface adjacent to said light guide plate, and having a light emitting side, spaced from the light entrance side,

said prismatic surface having repeated projections, each having first and second slopes inclined with respect to the plane of said light control element, said first slopes being light source side slopes directed to said incidence end face of the light guide plate to receive incident light emitted from the exiting surface of said light guide plate obliquely toward said first slopes and said second slopes being directed oppositely to said incidence end face of the light guide plate to deflect the received incidence light ~~traveling in a defined direction~~ after being received by undiffused incidence surfaces of the first slopes and while within the light control element,

wherein the second slopes define light diffusible surfaces within the light control element to generate diffused light when the light emanating within the light control element from the first slopes is incident within the light control element along the defined direction to said second slopes while traveling within said light control element, such that a surface of the light emitting side within the light control element is illuminated in a substantially uniform manner to reduce

light effects of the reflecting sheet caused by defined directional reflection of light by the reflection sheet toward the light control element and to secure a desired angle of field of vision of light after emission from the light control element.

5. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) A surface light source device of side light type according to claim 4, wherein said projections extend in one common direction and are repeatedly arranged in a direction perpendicularly to said one common direction, each of said projections having a substantially triangular cross section.

6. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A surface light source device of side light type according to claim 4, wherein each of said light diffusible surfaces is a rough surface.

7-8. (CANCELLED)

9. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A surface light source device of side light type according to claim 5, wherein each of said light diffusible surfaces is a rough surface.

10-22. (CANCELED)